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Docket No.: A8130.0135/P135  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Michael Merves

Application No.: 10/679,265

Confirmation No.: 3136

Filed: October 7, 2003

Art Unit: 3731

For: INSTRUMENT HANDLE FOR STORING  
SUTURE AND NEEDLES

Examiner: M. R. Tyson

**AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

MS AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

In response to the Office Action dated November 2, 2006, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 6 of this paper.